Restored Camel Steam Locomotive Returns to Historic Roundhouse of the B&O Railroad Museum

WHAT: The B&O Railroad Museum is proud to announce the completion of the restoration of one of America’s rarest steam engines, the #305 Camel and its return to the Roundhouse. The historic locomotive was one of the twenty-two locomotives and railcars that were severely damaged by the roundhouse roof collapse during the President’s Day blizzard of 2003. The locomotive will be unveiled and commemorated by the museum’s executive director, Courtney Wilson and chief curator, David Shackelford on the morning of Saturday, June 11th. To honor the efforts of the Museum’s restoration team, public programs on the engine will take place throughout the day.

The “camel” design, named because the locomotive’s cab rests directly on top of the boiler, was first introduced in 1848. It was one of the most peculiar and widely recognized locomotive designs used by the B&O Railroad. A true work horse, several hundred camels were built for the railroad; however, this is only one of two surviving B&O Camels in existence. Previously known as the#217, the locomotive was built in 1869 as #305, and renumbered #187 in 1884. It was retired in 1892 and began a career as an historic public relations locomotive and was displayed during the 1893 World’s Columbian Exhibition in Chicago as #129, and renumbered again as #217 in 1927 for the
B&O Railroad’s 100th Anniversary celebration known as the Fair of the Iron Horse. It has been meticulously restored and presented as its original number #305.

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 8:30 am – 10:00 am

**WHERE:** Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum
901 West Pratt Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21223
410-752-2490
FREE PARKING

**NOTES:** The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, a full affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of American railroading and its impact on American society, culture and economy. The Museum is home to the oldest, most comprehensive collection of railroad artifacts in the Western Hemisphere including an unparalleled roster of 19th and 20th century railroad equipment. The 40-acre historic site is regarded as the birthplace of American Railroading and includes the 1851 Mt. Clare Station, the 1884 Baldwin Roundhouse and first mile of commercial railroad track in America. For further information on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, please call 410-752-2490 or visit [www.borail.org](http://www.borail.org).

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